

THE ILLINOIS FREE TRADER

Our Country, her Commerce, and her Free Institutions.

VOLUME I.

OTTAWA, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1840.

NUMBER 4.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
GEORGE F. WEAVER & JOHN HISE,
Coral Street, nearly opposite the Mansion House.

TERMS:

Two dollars and fifty cents per annum, if paid in advance; Three dollars if not paid before the expiration of the first six months; And three dollars and twenty-five cents if delayed until the end of the year.

Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal discount made to those who advertise by the year.

All communications, to ensure attention, must be post paid.

JOB WORK

Of every description, executed in the neatest manner, at the usual prices.

OTTAWA is the seat of justice of La Salle county; is situated at the junction of the Fox river with the Illinois, 290 miles, by water, from Saint Louis, and mid-way between Chicago and Peoria. The population of Ottawa is about one thousand.

THE FREE TRADER.

Ottawa, Friday, June 12, 1840.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Opposition to a National Bank, as fraught with danger to our free institutions and to the liberties of the people, from its necessarily great and controlling power over the general currency and business of the country. Opposition to the present Banking System, as defective in principle and unsafe in practice, and requiring a radical reform. A total separation of the fiscal concerns of Government from all Banking Institutions, as the best guarantee for the preservation of our National Independence. Encouragement to all Banks, based upon sound principles, with the ability and disposition at all times to redeem their bills in gold and silver, and an express provision in all Bank Charters, requiring ample security to be given to the State for the redemption of their issues in specie on demand, and the perpetual subjection of all acts of incorporation to the control of the Legislature.

Agents for the Illinois Free Trader.

The following gentlemen are authorized to act as agents of this paper, viz:

M. MOTT, Peru, La Salle county, Ill.
D. S. EMMERS, mail contractor.
C. G. MILLER, Dayton.
A. O. SMITH, Smith's Mills.
JASON GARLET, Troy Grove.
L. W. DIMOCK, Vermilionville.
HENRY PHILLIPS, Mazon, (Indian creek.)

Post Masters, and other individuals residing in La Salle and the adjoining counties, who are willing to act as agents in their respective neighborhoods, will please make the same known to us, by mail or otherwise.

Expenses of the Government.

The following table, taken from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, made at the request of the U. S. Senate, will give the reader an exact idea of the expenses of the Government for each year, from 1821 until 1839 inclusive. The Opposition party have for a long time been harping upon this theme, and from the apparent sincerity with which they manifest upon the subject, those unacquainted with the matter, might be induced to believe that they were speaking the truth, and making assertions founded on facts. That the expenses of the General Government of late years have increased beyond those of a former period, no man will deny. But when we take into consideration the extent of our country—the increase of territory—our obligations for the protection of the coast—the improvement of the present Florida territory—the removal of different tribes of Indians—the purchase of Indian claims to lands and the claims of the different States for war debts—the construction of the Cumberland Road—the expenses incurred by fitting out the Exploring Expedition—the large appropriations by Congress for the improvement of our navy—the erection of public buildings, such as the Treasury Department and Patent Office, at Washington city—the new Custom Houses in Boston and New York, which of themselves will cost millions, and which have been voted for and sustained by members of both parties. When we take into consideration the vast amounts annually expended for the improvement of our harbors, lakes, and rivers, and numerous other expenditures which annually accrue and cannot be avoided, the most prejudiced mind must be convinced that the charge of extravagance and prodigality are unfounded, and are merely made use of for the purpose of deceiving the People, and in their present distressed monetary affairs, operate on their feelings rather than their senses.

The speech of Mr. Benton, lately made in the Senate of the United States on this subject, is one of the most argumentative that has been delivered before that body for a number of years. The speech is worthy of its author, and, as all of its predecessors, is characterized by candor and frankness. He gives figures plain as the noon-day sun, and presents facts, which the combined ingenuity and trickery of his opponents cannot frustrate. We are sorry that the limits of our paper will not admit the publication of the speech at length, but hope hereafter, to refer to it, and possibly, may give the speech at length.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
May 4, 1840.

Sir: I have the honor to submit this Report in compliance with the following resolution, passed by the Senate on the 24th ultimo.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury report to the Senate the aggregate amount of all expenditures or payments of every kind from the Treasury in each year, from 1824 to 1839 inclusive in one column, and in another column for each year the aggregate amount, indepen-

dent of the payments on account of the public debt, whether funded or unfunded, and in a third column, the aggregate amount for permanent and ordinary purposes, excluding payments on account of objects either extraordinary or temporary; such as the public debt, trust funds and indemnities, claims of States for war debts, or 3 per cents on lands sold, occasional donations of money to objects in the District of Columbia or otherwise, survey of the coast, taking the census, duties refunded, the Exploring Expedition, and materials collected for the gradual improvement of the navy, durable public buildings of all kinds, bridges and fortifications, all roads, canals, breakwaters, and improvements in rivers and harbors, arming militia and forts, all pensions except those of invalids, and the purchase of title to lands from Indians, the removal of Indians, and their wars, with such other payments as may have been made in those years for property lost or injuries committed during any hostilities.

The resolution was on the same day referred to the Register of the Treasury, with instructions to prepare a tabular statement, containing the information desired in three separate columns. It is herewith annexed, marked A.

With high respect,
LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.
To Hon. RICHARD M. JOHNSON,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

STATEMENT of the expenditures of the United States, from the year 1824 to the year 1839, inclusive, agreeably to a resolution of the Senate of the 24th April, 1840.

Year.	Aggregate amount of all expenditures or payments of every kind from the Treasury.	Aggregate amount independent of the payment on account of the public debt whether funded or unfunded.	Aggregate amount for permanent and ordinary purposes excluding payments on account of objects either extraordinary or temporary.
1824	31,898,538 47	15,330,144 71	\$7,107,892 05
1825	23,585,804 72	11,490,459 94	6,537,671 27
1826	24,103,398 46	12,062,316 27	7,058,872 12
1827	22,656,764 04	12,653,095 65	7,427,175 78
1828	25,459,479 52	13,296,941 45	7,788,394 86
1829	25,044,358 40	12,660,460 62	7,503,204 46
1830	24,585,281 55	13,229,533 33	7,624,827 56
1831	30,038,446 12	13,864,067 90	7,679,412 66
1832	34,356,698 06	16,616,388 77	8,562,650 42
1833	24,257,298 49	12,713,755 11	8,827,095 77
1834	24,601,982 44	13,425,417 25	9,667,797 97
1835	17,573,141 56	17,514,950 28	9,157,490 32
1836	30,868,164 04	30,868,164 04	11,687,987 18
1837	37,265,037 15	37,243,214 24	13,098,321 83
1838	39,455,438 36	33,849,718 08	13,837,594 44
1839	37,129,396 80	25,982,797 75	13,525,800 18

*Such as the public debt, trust funds, indemnities, claims of States for war debts, or three per cents on lands sold, occasional donations in money to objects in the District of Columbia, or otherwise, survey of the coast, taking the census, duties refunded, Exploring Expedition, and materials collected for the gradual improvement of the navy, including improvements at navy yard, durable public buildings of all kinds bridges and fortifications, all roads, canals, breakwaters and improvements in rivers and harbors, arming militia and forts, all pensions except those of invalids and the purchase of title to lands from Indians, (Indian Department,) the removal of the Indians and wars, with such other payments as may have been made in those years for property lost, or injuries committed during any hostilities. None of these years or columns include anything on account of the Post Office Department.

The expenditures of 1839, are subject to variation, on the settlement of the Treasurer's accounts for that year, which have not yet reached this office.

T. L. SMITH, Register.
TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

From the Ohio Statesman.

A Voice from the Hermitage.

Below we publish the reply of the venerable Hero of New Orleans, to the letter of a committee appointed by the last Legislature, inviting him to join the citizens of Ohio in celebrating the next anniversary of our National Independence:

HERMITAGE, May 11, 1840.

GENTLEMEN:—I had the honor to receive, by due course of mail, your flattering communication of the 17th February last, enclosing the preamble and resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Ohio, by which I am invited to unite with them and the people of that State in celebrating the approaching anniversary of our National Independence.

An answer to this communication has been deferred thus long, because of my earnest wish to accept it, should the state of my health have continued such as to authorize the hope that I could perform the journey. But finding that my strength has not latterly increased, I am constrain-

ed to give up the agreeable wish, and must request you to convey to the Legislature and people of Ohio my sincere regret that it will not be in my power to wait upon them in person, and thank them for the very distinguished honor they have paid me.

I shall ever feel a debt of gratitude to the people of Ohio for the many proofs they have given me of their respect and confidence; and it is increased by the cordial terms in which their Representatives on this occasion have been pleased to renew their approbation of my conduct whilst in public service. In a country like ours, free and intelligent, public opinion is the great lever by which the Government is held to its proper functions, and we are authorized, from all our experience, to look to it as the best guarantee that our institutions will be as permanent as they have been hitherto glorious to the cause of popular liberty. To be assured that my conduct, when subjected to this exalted test, can bear the favorable judgment expressed by the Legislature of your State, is therefore an honor of the highest kind, and one to which I feel that I am indebted more to their kindness and liberality than to any merit of my own, save that of an honest intention in all my public acts to pursue fearlessly what I thought would conduce to the interest of my country.

It is particularly gratifying to me, gentlemen, to be assured by your Legislature that the grounds on which I rested my opposition to the encroachments of the money power are regarded with favor by the people of Ohio. The dangers of that power, now more evident because they are brought closer to the observation and business concerns of all classes of our citizens, form in my judgment, the only cloud in our political horizon. In all other aspects the influences adverse to the genius of our institutions seem to have yielded to the demands of the people, and such, I doubt not, will be the case with those wielded by the money power as soon as the public voice has another opportunity of acting upon them. All that we have to do on this subject, is to persevere a little longer, maintaining the doctrines of the Constitution and the suggestions of common sense. We know that our fathers who framed the Constitution gave to Congress no power to charter a Bank, and we cannot err, therefore, in saying that if our Government had never departed from their example, we would have had none of the evils which now afflict us in consequence of bank suspensions, and an irredeemable paper currency. We know that if the Government deposited none of the money of the people with banks, these institutions would have no power to endanger the safety of the public treasure, or to influence, improperly, questions of public policy. We know that banks do not make money, but only circulate their paper emissions, which must be good or bad according to their capacity to redeem them with specie, and hence that there can be no confidence in them as long as they maintain the right to suspend specie payments at pleasure.

From such truths, it appears to me to be self-evident, that there is now no relief for the people but in the adoption of the Independent Treasury recommended by the present Administration of the General Government. By this plan, the financial operations of the Treasury will be simplified, and the people will have the strongest guarantee that the money which is raised from them by taxation will be applied according to the requirements of the Constitution. If, in addition to this reform in our financial system, Congress would, at the same time, pass a general bankrupt law, by which the banks which are now in existence, or may be hereafter chartered by the States, would be bound to make an equitable distribution of their effects to their creditors, when they refuse to redeem their notes with specie, it cannot be doubted that there would be an end to the evils of a depreciated paper currency. These measures being adopted, but little time would be requisite to enable those banking institutions which are sound to regain the public confidence; and the labor of the country, the farming, manufacturing, and mechanic interests would soon revive: that credit system which is based on real capital, and which goes hand in hand with the labor and enterprise of our citizens, would be enlarged, not diminished, by the operation of these measures.

Congratulating you, gentlemen, on the bright prospects which are before us in respect to the adoption of a proper remedy for the existing disorders of our currency, and trusting that our country will soon be free from the withering influences of a money power which is not recognised by the Constitution or the true interests of our country, I remain, with sentiments of profound respect and gratitude to the

people and Legislature of your State, and to yourselves.

Your friend, and fellow-citizen,
ANDREW JACKSON.

To Samuel Spangler, Dowry Uter, John E. Hunt, on behalf of the Senate.

To Geo. H. Flood, Rufus P. Spalding, John H. Blair, Henry West, Edw. Smith, on behalf of the House of Representatives.

From the Detroit Free Press.
Important Movement.

The Louisville Advertiser contains a long, able, and important address of the democratic central committee of Kentucky to the people of that State, respecting the anomalous position which Gen. Harrison now occupies before the American people as a MUTE CANDIDATE for the presidency. The address contains a letter, copies of which were addressed to both Mr. Van Buren and Gen. Harrison, asking an avowal of their opinions upon the views and measures of the abolitionists, together with the replies of the presidential candidates thereto. The letter to Mr. Van Buren, which was dated April 2d, was sent by mail, and he answered it under date of April 21st, with a full, frank, explicit, and undisguised declaration of his sentiments, being a reiteration, more at length, of his former avowals on the subject.—But the letter to Gen. Harrison was sent by private messengers who waited upon him at his own mansion and delivered it to him with their own hands. The following is the account of their mission to North Bend:

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 12, 1840.

Gentlemen—Early on the 10th of April inst. we called at the residence of General William H. Harrison, at North Bend, Ohio. When we entered the house we were informed the General was indisposed; but in something less than an hour he made his appearance. After the usual salutations were exchanged, one of the undersigned (William Chambers) handed Gen. Harrison a letter addressed to him by the Democratic Central Committee of Kentucky, on the subject of Abolition. He received it, perused it, turned back and re-examined parts of it, expressed a astonishment that his opinions, so repeatedly expressed, were not known to those gentlemen, AND SAID THAT NOTHING COULD INDUCE HIM TO ANSWER SUCH INTERROGATORIES, COMING EITHER FROM FRIENDS OR FOES.

In a consequent conversation, he referred to opinions heretofore expressed by him, but made no further response to the letter of the Central Committee.

Very respectfully yours, &c.
WM. CHAMBERS,
C. VAN BUSKIRK.

To the Democratic Central Committee of Kentucky.

Here is a full and authentic confirmation of the truth of the letters of Harrison's committee, that in obedience to his "immediate advisers" he will make no further declaration of his principles for the public eye while occupying his present position. Yes, such is the way in which the whig candidate for the presidency treats the freemen of the United States. What an appropriate position for the great head and leader of the party which distrusts the intelligence of the people, and doubts their competency for self-government!

From the N. York Herald, (Whig.)
Mr. Webster and the Bankrupt Law.

According to the notices published in the newspapers, of the recent speech of the Hon. Daniel Webster, on the proposed Bankrupt Law, in the United States Senate, it appears to be his opinion, that banks and corporations should be exempted from the operation of the proposed law, and that it should not have an effect on any class of the community but that of the speculators who have become bankrupt by their wild extravagance.

Mr. Webster declares that it is unconstitutional to pass any bankrupt law, touching the rights or privileges of the banks—and, no doubt, he can give a most admirable legal argument in favor of such an opinion; and we will venture to say, that for a fee of \$5,000, he could give an equally conclusive opinion on the other side. But the question with the people will be, "is it honest to pass a bankrupt law for the relief of the speculators—but to refuse to protect the great mass of the community against the swindling banks and corporations?" This is the common sense point of view in which it will be regarded by the country.

We are utterly astonished at the course, the policy, the arguments of Mr. Webster. He wants to pass a law to protect the rich and arrogant speculator, made bankrupt by his follies and extravagance; but refuses the same measure of justice to protect the poor man, that gives credit and circulation to the bills of the swindling banks. A bankrupt system, including

corporations, would at once give the country a healthy and an equalized currency. Why? Because when a bank suspends, it would at once be shut up, and a good currency would take its place, instead of a depreciated one as now.

The conduct of the opposition party in Congress—and particularly the course of Mr. Webster, is the most injudicious and impolitic that could have been adopted by any set of men willing to throw away their senses, and sell themselves to Satan for a lump of brimstone. They identify themselves with the swindling banks and corrupt corporations throughout the country. But they cannot bewilder the strong common sense of the people by pleading and praying for what they call "State rights," when they violate "honest human rights." We speak on this project with a positive certainty of the instincts, of the sense, and of the feelings of the people. Mr. Webster, we admit, has a right to support the banks—he may advocate them in or out of Congress—but, as a public man, as a servant of the people, he has no just right to legislate for a few thousand speculators, or seven hundred banks, at the expense and in neglect of the great bulk of the people of this country. If he does not look sharp about, he will be called to a severe account for such a policy.

The infamous conduct of the United States and other swindling banks, is daily working a revolution in the instincts of this afflicted country—it is a question of liberty, of equality, of honest, and of truth.

Nativity of the Members of the House of Representatives of the United States.

The Madisonian says: Of the two hundred and thirty-five members of the House, the following States gave birth to the number set opposite each in the table subjoined.

Pennsylvania,	37
Virginia,	34
Massachusetts,	35
New York,	21
Connecticut,	18
North Carolina,	17
South Carolina,	12
Kentucky,	12
Maryland,	11
Tennessee,	11
Georgia,	7
Maine,	5
New Hampshire,	3
Vermont,	5
Delaware,	3
Ohio,	3
Louisiana,	2
Rhode Island,	1
Ireland,	4
ENGLAND,	4

Eight of the United States have not yet had the honor of giving birth to a Member of Congress.

Faithful to the End.

Our readers will recollect that the Opposition held a large convention at Columbus, Ohio, on the 22d of February last, which was one of the most extensive parades of "log cabins" and "hard cider" that has yet taken place, the St. Louis and Springfield exhibitions not excepted.

It appears that Mr. Bond, in the House of Representatives of the United States, lately made a speech, in which he referred to this parade as evidence of Gen. Harrison's popularity, and that he should be elected President! Mr. Watterson of Tennessee, approaches Mr. Bond, of Ohio, in the following manner:

MR. WATTERSON said: There is one fact which will not be disputed by the gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. Bond.] His political friends in the convention alluded to, would not condescend to let it be known, through the medium of an address, what the Whig party are contending for—what are their principles. No, no. They deemed it more prudent to meet in all the pomp and parade of modern Whiggery—in all the grand circumstances of buffoonery—with drums, fifes, bugles, and rams horns—with chicken coops and bald eagles—with bands of bacchanalian singers—with "log cabin" flags floating in the air—with boat loads of Federal orators—with canoes upon wheels, so full of Whig abuse, misrepresentation, calumny, and lawyers eating ginger bread, that it took six horses to pull a single canoe—all for the purpose of hiding the odiousness of their principles from the gaze of an intelligent and Republican people, and diverting their minds from the true issue now before the country. How far they can succeed by such disgusting devices, the ensuing Presidential election will determine.

In connection with this convention I have heard an anecdote, and must ask the indulgence of the House whilst I relate it. It shows conclusively that there was at least one delegate in that numerous and boisterous assemblage, who was immovably honest in his politics, if he were not so in his morals. After the convention had adjourned, and its members had gone through their carousals and frolic debaucheries, one of their num-

bers himself minus something under one hundred dollars. Suspicion fastened itself upon a brother delegate. He was taken up—examined—and sure enough the money was found in his possession. Well, sir, this was too bad—something must be done—it must not go abroad that a Whig had been *Swartwouting*, and they tried to prevail upon him to avow himself a Democrat. "No, gentlemen," said he, "no—you may call me a thief, a rogue, a villain—but by Heaven," he exclaimed (raising his head erect for the first time), "you can't cram Democracy upon me—huzza for Old Tip."

Whig Prospects.

The Philadelphia Pennsylvanian, the Editor of which is one of the most candid and sagacious politicians connected with the press, takes the following rational view of the prospects of whiggery:

"We always draw the brightest auguries of our ultimate triumph by noting the temper of the adversary. When whiggery is flushed with confidence, as it is at present—when it fights the battles in advance, as it does now, and shows how it proposes to trip up our heels, and shouts itself hoarse in the joyous anticipation of victory—then we feel the 'sober certainty' that it is singing its own death-song, and that democracy, calm and collected, as it always is when work is to be done, has nothing very serious to apprehend. Our opponents labor to insult the conviction into their troops that nothing can stand before them. Under some circumstances and with certain materials, the policy is wise, but with the Opposition party the feeling causes such wild, discreditable antics, creates such arrogance of demeanor and such general madness of deportment, that this alone is almost sufficient to secure defeat without the operation of other circumstances. Indeed, therefore, of discouraging political log-cabinism, we rejoice to see our opponents so busily engaged in playing 'baby-house'—instead of objecting to the fashion of 'fuddling all their noses' with hard cider, we trust they will drink oceans of that astringent beverage, and do nothing from now to the election but shout Harrison songs and delight the children by marching about the streets loaded with badges, trinkets and little barrels. We trust they will have no reason to call for 'more rope,' but take cable enough to give them full swing. The money spent is good for trade—the log-cabin will be dry for winter firewood—the whigs will have had their sport in advance, and we shall carry our President 'soberly,' as Lady Grace has it; so that, philosophically considered, every party will have its share of pleasure from the campaign of 1840.

From the Troy Budget.

Honorable Retraction.

The Troy Whig asserted the other day that Mr. Van Buren offered a resolution at a federal meeting in the city of Hudson, against the last war. This assertion was pronounced false, and challenged the Whig to substantiate it. In reply to this challenge that journal repeated its calumnious accusation, and promised to adduce evidence proving it to be true. In order to aid our neighbor of the Whig in his researches after the truth in regard to this subject, we subjoin the following honorable retraction by a zealous federal journal in Vermont:

"CORRECTION. — We copied the other day an article attributing to Mr. Van Buren the authorship of a resolution against the last war. This, we are satisfied, is incorrect. The resolution was adopted at a public meeting in Columbia county, where Mr. Van Buren resided, but which he had nothing to do with." — Burlington Free Press.

What will the Whig say to this?

A Rogue Doctor's Story.

Officers Cleland & others of this village, on Saturday last, succeeded in arresting some three or four individuals, who it appears had been previously suspected of being engaged in manufacturing and vending this precious metal. The officers on repairing to the spot, found some of them engaged in the business about the establishment, which is located in a by-place, on a branch of the River Raisin, some two miles distant from the village of Palmyra in this county. — Adrian, Michigan, Whig.

General Harrison's Poverty.

We were told a day or two since, by a gentleman who had spent some time in Cincinnati (a Whig) that Harrison was recently offered ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS for two hundred acres of his land at North Bend. He owns two THOUSAND ACRES at that point. What a miserably poor man he must be! He receives only SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS per year, as Clark